

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-20 (Canceled)

21. (New) A slush molding machine for fabricating a molded component using a tool having an inner surface, said machine comprising:

a powder assembly having a first frame, a powder box mounted to said first frame, and a first lifting mechanism, wherein said first lifting mechanism includes a first cylinder having a first rod that is affixed to said first frame; and

a cooling assembly.

22. (New) The machine as set forth in claim 21 whereby the cooling assembly further includes a second frame, a tank mounted to said second frame, and a second lifting mechanism, wherein said second lifting mechanism includes a second cylinder having a second rod that is affixed to said second frame.

23. (New) The machine as set forth in claim 21 further including a heating means for preheating the tool.

24. (New) The machine as set forth in claim 21 further including a carriage assembly for rotatably supporting the tool.

25. (New) The machine as set forth in claim 24 further including a stationary track and said carriage assembly moves along said stationary track.

26. (New) The machine as set forth in claim 21 further including a guard assembly extending about the perimeter of said machine, wherein said guard assembly includes at least one wall having an opening.

27. (New) The machine as set forth in claim 21 further including a computerized control means for controlling operation of the machine.

28. (New) The machine as set forth in claim 21 wherein said powder box further includes a skirt and a platform that is detachably mounted to the first frame.

29. (New) A slush molding machine for fabricating a molded component using a tool having an inner surface comprising:

a powder assembly having a powder reservoir; and

a cooling assembly having a second frame, a tank mounted to said second frame, and a second lifting mechanism, wherein said second lifting mechanism includes a second cylinder having a second rod that is affixed to said second frame.

30. (New) The machine as set forth in claim 29 whereby said powder assembly further includes a first frame, a powder box mounted to said first frame, and a first lifting mechanism, wherein said first lifting mechanism includes a first cylinder having a first rod that is affixed to said first frame.

31. (New) The machine as set forth in claim 29 further including a heating means for preheating the tool.

32. (New) The machine as set forth in claim 29 further including a carriage assembly for rotatably supporting the tool.

33. (New) The machine as set forth in claim 32 further including a stationery track and said carriage assembly moves along said stationary track.

34. (New) The machine as set forth in claim 29 further including a guard assembly extending about the perimeter of said machine, wherein said guard assembly includes at least one wall having an opening.

35. (New) The machine as set forth in claim 29 further including a computerized control means for controlling operation of the machine.

36. (New) The machine as set forth in claim 29 wherein said powder box further includes a skirt and a platform that is detachably mounted to said first frame.

37. (New) A slush molding machine for fabricating molded components using a tool having an inner surface, said machine comprising:

a powder assembly having a first frame, a powder box mounted to said first frame, and a first lifting mechanism for lifting said powder box; and

a cooling assembly having a second frame, a tank mounted to said second frame, and a second lifting mechanism for lifting said tank.

38. (New) The machine as set forth in claim 37, wherein said first lifting mechanism includes a first cylinder having a first rod that is affixed to said first frame and said second lifting mechanism includes a second cylinder having a second rod that is affixed to said second frame.

39. (New) The machine as set forth in claim 37 further including a heating means for preheating the tool.

40. (New) The machine as set forth in claim 37 further including a carriage assembly for rotatably supporting the tool.

41. (New) The machine as set forth in claim 37 further including a stationary track and said carriage assembly moves along said stationary track.

42. (New) The machine as set forth in claim 37 further including a guard assembly extending about the perimeter of said machine, wherein said guard assembly includes at least one wall having an opening.

43. (New) The machine as set forth in claim 37 further including a computerized control means for controlling operation of the machine.

44. (New) The machine as set forth in claim 37 wherein said powder box further includes a skirt and a platform that is detachably mounted to said first frame.

45. (New) A method of slush molding a component using a slush molding machine, said method including the steps of:

mounting a tool on a carriage assembly that operatively moves along a track;

preheating the tool;

positioning an inner surface of the tool over a powder assembly having a first frame, a powder box detachably mounted to the first frame, and a first lifting mechanism for lifting the powder box;

lifting the powder box up to the tool until the powder box is in contact with the tool;

detaching the powder box from the first frame;

coating the tool by rotating the powder box;

reattaching the powder box to the first frame;

lowering the powder box; and

cooling the tool.

46. (New) The method as set forth in claim 45 wherein said step of cooling the tool further includes the steps of:

positioning the tool over a cooling assembly having a second frame, a tank mounted to the second frame, and a second lifting mechanism for lifting the tank;

lifting the tank until the tool is immersed in the tank; and

lowering the tank using the lifting mechanism after the tool is coated.

47. (New) A method of slush molding a component using a slush molding machine, said method including the steps of:

- mounting a tool on a carriage assembly that operatively moves along a track;
- preheating the tool;
- coating the tool using a powder assembly;
- positioning the tool over a cooling assembly having a second frame, a tank mounted to the second frame, and a second lifting mechanism for lifting the tank;
- lifting the tank until the tool is immersed in the tank; and
- lowering the tank using the lifting mechanism after the tool is cooled.

48. (New) The method as set forth in claim 47 wherein said step of coating the tool further includes the steps of:

- positioning an inner surface of the tool over a powder assembly having a first frame, a powder box detachably mounted to the first frame, and a first lifting mechanism for lifting the powder box;
- lifting the powder box until the powder box is in contact with the tool;
- detaching the powder box from the first frame;
- coating the tool by rotating the powder box;
- reattaching the powder box to the first frame; and
- lowering the powder box.